

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Claims 1, 5, 6, and 15 are pending.

Claims 1 and 2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sawada et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,184,516 in view of Rhodes U.S. Publication No. 2003/0169360.

Claim 3 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sawada et al. in view of Rhodes and further in view of Tredwell et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,859,462.

Claim 6 was rejected to under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Sawada et al. in view of Rhodes.

Claim 15 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Rhodes in view of Sawada et al.

It is noted with appreciation that claims 4 and 5 are deemed to recite allowable subject matter.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite the subject matter recited in its dependent claims 2 - 4. Claims 2 - 4 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claim 5 has been amended accordingly.

Claims 6 and 15 have been amended to recite the subject matter recited in claims 2 - 3.

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PATENT

**CONCLUSION**

In view of the foregoing, all claims now pending in this Application are believed to be in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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